

Atty. Docket No.: 2055H(204231) PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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| Application of: | Choong-Chin Liew | Examiner: | Juliet Switzer |
| Serial No.: | 10/812,782 | Group Art Unit: | 1634 |
| Filed: | March 30, 2004 | | |
| Titled: | Method for the Detection of Rheumatoid Arthritis Related Gene Transcripts in Blood | Conf. No.: | 5548 |

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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| CERTIFICATION OF ELECTRONIC FILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8 | |
| Date of Electronic Submission: <u>August 27, 2008</u> | |
| I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted via the U.S.P.T.O.'s Patent Electronic Business Center in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.8(a)(3) on the date indicated above. | |
| _____ /Amy DeCloud/ (Reg. No. 54,849) _____ Signature of Person Transmitting Paper | |

AMENDMENT AND REPLY

This Amendment and Reply are filed concurrently with a **Request for Continued Examination** in the above-noted U.S. patent application. In satisfaction of the requirement for a submission under 37 C.F.R. §1.114, kindly enter the following amendments and remarks in response to the Final Office Action mailed from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on February 27, 2008, in the above-identified application. Reconsideration and further examination are requested.

Amendments to the Claims are shown in the “Listing of the Claims” which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 9 of this paper.

A petition for an extension of time and the appropriate fee are being filed concurrently with this Amendment and Reply, RCE and RCE fee. Please charge any necessary fees required

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in connection with the paper transmitted herewith to Deposit Account No. 04-1105, Reference No.: 2055H(204231).

Please enter the following amendments and remarks.

Reconsideration and further examination are requested.